Captain Leiſler's

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IN the Month of *February* 1688. there came News to *New-York*, that the then Prince of *Orange* was Landed in *England*; and in *April* then following, the Inhabitants of *New-York* received an account that the People of *New England* had ſeized upon Sir *Edmond Andros* (the then Governor of *New England* and *New-York*) The Preſident of his Council, and ſeveral others of his Council, as well affected to King *James*'s Intereſt; and thereupon the People declared for the Prince of *Orange* and Proteſtant Intereſt, *&c.* Whereupon thoſe of the Militia, and others of *New-York*, finding that Captain *Nicholſon* (the then Deputy-Governor of *New-York*, under Sir *Edmond Andros*) would not there declare for the then Prince of *Orange*, *&c.* The Militia ſeized upon the Fort, and by turns the Captains of the Militia (of which Captain *Leſlier* was one) kept Guard there; and thereupon ſent their Circular Letters to chuſe an *Aſſembly*, which *Aſſembly*, or Committee of Safety, being met *June* 1689. *Under their Hands and Seals appointed the ſaid Captain* Leſlier *Captain of the Fort*; *and in* Auguſt *then following, under their hands and Seals conſtituted the ſaid Captain* Leſlier *Commander in Chief of the Province of* New-York, *till Order ſhould come from their then Majeſties.* In *December* then following, there arrived a Meſſenger from *England* with a Letter from His Majeſty, under the Signet, thus directed;

Captain *Leiſler* by the Aſſembly firſt made Captain of the Fort, and ſoon after Commander in Chief of *New-York.*

To our Truſty and Well-beloved Francis Nicholſon, *Eſq; our Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief of our Province of New-York in* America. **And in his Abſence to ſuch as for the time being, take care for preſerving the Peace, and Adminiſtring the Laws in our ſaid Province of** New-York in America.

Which Letter, after a ſhort introduction, runs in theſe words;

We do hereby **Authorize and Impower you to take upon you the Government** *of the ſaid Province, calling to your Aſſiſtance in the Adminiſtration thereof, the Principal Freeholders and Inhabitants of the ſame, or ſo many of them as you ſhall think fit: Willing and Requiring you to do and perform all things which to the Place and Office of Our* **Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief** *of Our Province of* New-York, *doth or may appertain, as you ſhall find neceſſary for Our Service, and the good Government of Our Subjects, according to the Laws and Cuſtoms of Our ſaid Province until further Order from Us; and ſo We bid you farewell. Given at Our Court at* Whitehall *the* 30*th. Day of* July, 1689; *in the Firſt Year of Our Reign.*

Captain *Leiſler* by the King conſtituted Deputy-Governor of *New York.*

By His Majeſties Command,

Nottingham.

Captain *Leiſler* (being as before) Conſtituted *Commander in Chief of the Province of New-York*, and *Nicholſon* having been gone from *New-York* about **ſix Months** before the Kings Letter Arriv'd: The Meſſenger told Capt. *Leiſler*, that if he would receive the Letter, and give a Receipt for the ſame, he ſhould have it; which Capt. *Leiſler* accordingly did, and Capt. *Leiſler being by His Majeſty thus Conſtituted Lieut. Governor*, he continued by Virtue *of this Authority under the Signet, Lieut. Governor without any Oppoſition, for about* thirteen *Months, and then* Capt. *Ingoldsby* **Arriv'd at** *New-York* with two Companies of Foot, who *by his Commiſſion was obliged to obey the Governor of* New-York *for* **the time being**; Capt. *Ingoldsby* diſowning Capt. *Leiſler's* Government, without any Authority *demanded Poſſeſſion of the Fort*, which *Leiſler refuſed*; but offer'd him and his Soldiers all the Accom-

Note.

Captain *Leiſler* by virtue of the King's Letter, acts as Lieutenant-Governor for 13 Months before *Ingoldsby* arrived.

Ingoldsby, before *Slaughters* arrival, demands Poſſeſſion of the Fort, (without producing an Authority ſo to do); which *Leiſler* refus'd to give.

Accommodations the City of *New-York* could afford. Capt. *Ingoldsby* continued ſome ſhort time peaceably at *New-York*; at Length, upon Complaints by the Inhabitants of *New-York*, againſt the rudeneſs of Capt. *Ingoldsby*'s Soldiers, there happen'd ſome Diſturbance, and thereupon *Ingoldsby* planted Guns againſt the Fort, *&c.* So that ſoon after many Guns were fired both againſt, and from the Fort. On the nineteenth of *March* 1690, in the Evening, Coll. *Slaughter* Arrived at *New-York*, and that very Night read his Commiſſion, and Swore four of his Council, and then ſent Capt. *Ingoldsby* to the Fort to demand Poſſeſſion thereof; Capt. *Leiſler* hereupon ſent one that knew Coll. *Slaughter*, out of the Fort, to ſee whether the Coll. was Arrived, and the Meſſenger returning told him that Coll. *Slaughter* was come; upon which Capt. *Leiſler* about ten that night ſent two Perſons to Coll. *Slaughter* to Congratulate his Arrival, and to offer him Poſſeſſion of the Fort, and to receive his Commands, and Capt. *Ingoldsby* did then promiſe thoſe Meſſengers ſhould ſafely return, but contrary hereunto thoſe Perſons were Seized by Coll. *Slaughter*; upon notice hereof, Capt. *Leiſler* took care to put all things in order for the delivery of the Fort the next Morning to the Governor, and accordingly in the Morning ſent a Letter to the Governor, deſiring him to ſend one to take Poſſeſſion of the Fort, whereupon Capt. *Ingoldsby* was ſent, and then Capt. *Leiſler* order'd the Gates to be open'd, and Capt. *Ingoldsby* with his Soldiers were let in; *Leiſler* Commanded about three Hundred Men then *with him in the Fort*, to lay down their Arms, which they immediately did; and March'd out of the Fort.

There happened no Act of Hoſtility after Collonel Slaughter Landed.

Leiſler is indicted of High Treaſon charged to be committed two days before *Slaughter* landed, and conſequently before *Leiſler*'s Authority determin'd.

Captain *Leſlier* and many under him were made Priſoners, and ſoon after *Leſlier*, *Milbourn*, and others, were tried for High Treaſon and Felony charg'd againſt them to be Committed the Seventeenth of *March* (*which was two days before Colonel* Slaughter *Landed, and whilſt* Leſlier *was by the King's Letter* (*as before*) *conſtituted Lieutenant-Governor*) and at the Tryal Mr. *Dudley* was Preſident, or Chief of that Court.

Captain *Leſlier* produced a Paper to the Court, and deſired to be reſolved a few Queſtions before he Pleaded, which the Court refus'd; Captain *Leſlier* ſtill inſiſting upon that before he would plead, the Court gave Judgment againſt *Leſlier* and *Milbourn* for High Treaſon, and ſoon after they were accordingly Executed.

Whether this Relation was prov'd before that Honourable Committee *that laſt Sate upon this Bill, Is Humbly Submitted to thoſe worthy Members then preſent —— And if this Account was then prov'd: It's Humbly hop'd this Bill may paſs.*